THE SAVAGE ANNILLATION OF THE Labour Party in last month's council elections, following hard on the racist outburst by Enos Powell and the other peevish minority of the Labour Party which he inspired, mark the beginning of a new phase in British politics.

Both events have stripped away the complacency that has environed us for so many years. In recent months, the feeling that "things are going our way at last" has been broken.

Certainly the left has been growing and has seized major sections of the working-class movement. But with one carefully-delivered speech, Powell has shown that a sharp swing to the right can take place with horrifying ease.

Powell did more than win support from dockers and miners. He made national racialist politics, first with the Brixton riots and then with the Labour Party conference, and he has proved that millions of people are ready to listen to his message.

But the socialists who worked so hard to stop Powell's election have failed, and many of them are now in despair. The socialists must now decide what to do next.

POWELL: seeks mass base

"The workers with them, must go to the wall. Under capitalism, it is the workers who must pay for these innovations. If their wages are not raised, then the houses will have to be taken to make their profits to pay for the new investment — and they are not prepared to do this..."

This is the background to Powell's policy. A section of the ruling capitalist minority — represented by Powell — knows that they have to be disciplined and restricted to the narrow limits of what the economy can tolerate.

To succeed they need the divisiveness of the workers. Powell's speech was not just a direct attack on the trade union movement but a call for workers to be divided and weakest sections to be "head-chopped" by the employers in the interests of the ruling classes.

GARNISHES

In order to make the working class pay, Powell is attempting to win a mass base within that class. It is not just a question of Powell winning the election — he has already won that. He has become the major issue in the last election, and the ballot box is the empty ritual of participation by the workers in the election of a social group which is to be the "center in" of the new society of wage slavery in Britain.

INDICTMENT

Powell and the Tories have their "social" small rewards by playing on the fears of ordinary people — fears about jobs, wages, houses, inflation and general living standards. These fears exist — and what a terrible indictment it is of the Wilson government that four years of dynamic, forward-thinking Labourism, the working class feel themselves threatened and lives of unemployment and poverty and the willingness to tolerate the introduction of the Powell and his racist support.

But for a worker to think that the Tories might be better for him than the present Labour government is to be one of the most pathetic of all the phantasies of the labour movement.

A WARM WELCOME to new readers of Socialist Worker and to thousands of other new friends and supporters of the paper that used to be known as The Socialist.

We have established in recent months that the change of name has become imperative because any apparent connection with the wage-free, anti- working-class and pro-employers' government that manoeuvres under the name of Labour prevents us from selling even more copies of the paper. In spite of the Labour tag, our circulation has more than doubled in the last year. Now we are confident that we can go from strength to strength and again double the sales in the next year.

That never was complacency. There has never been a greater need for the socialist case to be brought to the attention of young people in this country. If Enos Powell has done one thing, he has revealed just how little socialist conquest the people in the factories, the docks, the offices and on the vast council estates.

OUTPOUT

International Socialism, an organisation of revolutionary socialists committed to the struggle for a new society based on workers' control of industry, is conscious of the need to step up the output of its published material in order to reach a wider audience. We must hammer away ceaselessly at all the myths, especially the racist one, that seeks to drown the workers from seeing within whose real enemies are and struggling against their class interests.

We need to supplement our monthly paper and quarterly magazine with leaflets and pamphlets. We hope to produce frequent Socialist Worker "Specials" that will deal with vital issues as they arise. Last month, for example, we printed 10,000 copies of a special issue for the one-day engineers' strike, which was distributed to the factories throughout the country.

Underpinning these plans, we are in the process of establishing our own printshop. This issue comes to you from a modern, four-colour litho press which gives us tremendous flexibility with our designs and in the coming months we hope to be able to supplement our new printshop with a full range of socialist literature — pamphlets, booklets and periodicals.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Parts 1-3

Fleet Street, which churned out a constant diet of lies and distortions to working people, such equipment may seem pretentious. But to us it means the output of large sums of money.

This is where we come in. If you are to help form the tide of socialists in Britain and begin to build a genuinely socialist party run by workers and not by serving parasitic bureaucrats, we must organise a modern and efficient printshop, staffed by full-time printers and journalists.

We need to raise £100,000 by the end of the year. Members of International Socialism have already donated £3,500 towards that target.

We appeal to all our readers to help us to reach the target. We know money is tight and times are tough. But we also know that a genuine group of working people in Britain, deeply disturbed by the groundswell of racism and reaction, are determined to keep up the fight for socialists.

Send us as much as you can afford. Raise the fund in your union branch, your Young Socialist branch, your tenant's association and all the areas of the Labour movement in which you are active.

If you believe in socialism, in real freedom and an end to this squabble, dog-eat-dog system called capitalism, you won't let us down.

TO SOCIALIST WORKER PRINT SHOP FUND

I enclose £... towards your printing fund. Please send me a banker's order for this amount, or make the cheque payable to "Socialist Worker Print Shop Fund". I promise to give you £... in three/six months time.

Name

Address

Organisation

Date

Endorsed where applicable. (Send to the Editor, 39 Gorden Gardens, London, NW1. Names will not be published in the paper without permission.)
The evils of unemployment and poverty and turn in desperation to the idea of a Green and Powell and his racist support-

But for a worker to think that the Tories might be better for him than Labour is like a condemned man choosing the electric chair in preference to the gallows. The Tories have nothing to offer the working class except unemployment, lower wages and cut-backs in social services, exactly the same as Labour. For both parties administer the same capitalist system and both have to grapple with the same torturous problems.

If British capitalism is to survive, in the ruthless world of international competition and the cut-throat fight for markets, then she must bring the economy up to date through the introduction of the most modern methods of production: new factories, machinery, and technology. Outdated methods, their factories and their

France: special eye-witness report on the back page

We see how things develop. While we mark time, the fascists and racists are organising. In Nazi Germany it was the trade unionists, socialists and communists who were the first into the gas chambers.

Unite now to smash the threat from the right.
THE LEEDS INTELLIGENCER of 29 October 1831 published the text of a letter written to its editor by a regular contributor, the Revd John R. Blomfield, one of the village vicars of the Anglican church. The letter was written in response to the Leeds Intelligencer's policy of restricting the number of anonymous letters to three per week. The Revd Blomfield argued that the restriction was unfair and that the publication of anonymous letters was important for the free exchange of ideas and opinions. He cited examples from other newspapers where anonymous letters had been published and suggested that the Intelligencer might consider lifting the restriction or at least allowing for more anonymous letters under certain conditions.

IMMIGRANTS

Immigrants who find work in textile mills tend to keep organization on the right track, but the rate of unionization is still slow compared to other industries. The local unions report that only a small number of textile workers have joined the local unions to date. This is partly due to the fact that textile workers are often not aware of the benefits of unionization. However, the local unions are also working to increase the rate of unionization among textile workers through various outreach efforts. The local unions are also seeking to build relationships with other local organizations and community groups to increase the visibility of unionization and the benefits it can offer to textile workers.

Rents White Paper: councils go ahead with jack up plans

The White Paper on Rents and Subsidies was widely interpreted as an important step towards rent control in the UK. The White Paper was based on previous reports and discussions on the topic, and it included proposals for a new Rent Control Act. The White Paper was seen as a response to the growing concern about housing affordability and the need for rent control. The White Paper was a significant step towards the introduction of rent control in the UK, but it was not without controversy and opposition from some interested parties.
days work or five days pay. Shop stewards organisations should strengthen and extend their influence by linking up on an industrial and ultimately a national basis.

We are opposed to racial discrimination, a weapon used by the ruling class to divide the labour movement. Immigration control must be ended, ensuring the free movement of peoples regardless of race and colour. Black and white workers must unite and form their own defence organisations to fight fascism and racism. The labour movement must demand the immediate recall of British troops from abroad as the first step towards ending colonial exploitation.

The task of revolutionary socialists is to join workers in their struggles, to enrich those struggles with socialist ideas that will link up the various sections of the labour movement and help create a force that will lead on to workers' power.

If you would like to join IS or would like further details of our activities, fill in the form below:

Please send further details of the meetings and activities of International Socialism to:

Name
Address
WHITE AND NEGRO MUST FORGE THE VITAL LINK OF UNITY

False friends on the road to liberation for black Americans...

by JOHN LEA

THE MASS VIOLENCE that followed the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., on April 4, contained a reception for the publication of the Report of the President’s Commission on Civil Disorders (often known as the Kerner Report). According to the report’s author, Senator Thomas Johnson, it was intended to investigate the "causes" of last year’s negro uprisings. A committee of the American ruling class put together with sociologists and sub-committees of businessmen, is faced with the problem of reconciling the supremacy of the American capitalist class with the existence of the human degradation, poverty and racism in its midst.

The Commission achieves this reconciliation through the definition of the problems of race and poverty as being the responsibility of all American citizens—"the crisis of our nation," for which we, as potential victims of all of this, are responsible.

This is emphatically the emphasis on racism as the basic cause of negro unemployment, poverty and "white racism is essentially responsible for all the explosive mixture which was accumulating in our cities since the end of World War II" (P-307).

Even within this context of emphasizing the political problems there is no attempt—and nor can there be—to point out or legitimate the legitimacy of the capitalist system—only the exploitation of the working class generally.

The inadequacy shows up most clearly in the report’s almost incredible incompetence in dealing with the problem of poverty since slavery.

The removal of the system of slavery and the establishment of the position of Jim Crow in the 1890s, for example, provide the context of the question of white racism.

The report fails to point out that the white agricultural workers in the agrarian revolution, black and white, are the most exploited sections of the big southern plantation is totally to do with the imposition of Jim Crow and the disfranchise- ment of white poor and the direct political campaign by the landowners. Consequently, farmers were forced into warfare into racial channels and to (extremely severe) violence, illustrating that his enemy was the negro not the white man.

The most useful part of the report is the section entitled "The Negro Worker" where it abounds with the catchwords and cliches of the "bar-

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It was established—and not even contested by the military prosecution—that during the period when, according to the charge, To'ahem harboured Ahmed Khalifa, the two appeared together openly and publicly, took part in social meetings in which many Israeli students were present, etc. The prosecution did not contest the facts that during the same period Khalifa continued to come to the shop, owned and managed by him, in East Jerusalem.

It is especially noteworthy that in his judgement the military judge explained that it was not proved that Khalifa belonged to a terrorist organisation or involved in violent resistance. According to an enemy of the state, and any Israeli citizen who comes in touch with him could be prosecuted and condemned in virtue of the Emergency Regulations. It may be assumed that the widespread fear of public opinion, as well as the manifestations of solidarity by a part—although a small one—of the Israeli public, were among the reasons the military authorities conducted the hearings openly and even allowed the defendant to appeal against the sentence. In addition, the defence counsel, Mr. Shlomo Tuia-Cohen (one of Israel's best lawyers) has found a legal possibility to appeal against the verdict itself.

But this affair, grave though it is, but in one case—not as severe as others—of resistance by the Israeli authorities against Palestinian Arabs, both citizens of Israel and ever action you think right (demonstrations, picket lines, letters and cables to Israeli authorities) to protest against these repressions and to arouse world public opinion. Please let us know of any action you take, and send us copies of your letters of protest so that we may publish them here.

Arie Bober,
For the Students Committee
The Israeli Socialist Organisation,
c/o Dan Omer.
P.O.B. 2092, Jerusalem, Israel.

Cool it

VIOLENCE is too easy a form of compensation for people's thwarted desire for power, and in my view this shines through some of the thoughts on the subject expressed in Socialist Worker.

The black power movement does not go far enough not because it has a strong non-violent streak, but because, as you say, it has failed "to dig the roots of independent political organisation." King needed to be confronted with those Negroes who call for the rejection of all white values and in the next breath are willing to imitate the worst values of white society in calling for violence.

Had King lived, the demonstrations in Washington (for which King had the co-operation and support of Stokely Carmichael) would probably have been a major episode in the escalation of non-violence.
THE FASCIST MENACE

The strikes and demonstrations that followed Enoch Powell's outburst in Birmingham at the end of April emphasize the need for socialists to take action seriously and to reorganize their forces in Britain. This time they have proved incapable of doing this. The long observed isolation of the left in the Labour Party from the mass of workers was starkly exposed. With only a few honorable exceptions, trade union officials preferred to ignore the threat to their property, to ignore the threat to their property, and to ignore the threat to their property.

The experience of Germany and Italy before the last war teaches that when capitalism is in decline the alternative to a socialist society is a fascist one. This is a warning that we cannot ignore.

First, the ruling class has to decide that it can no longer afford liberal democracy. It begins to see the value of the marginal reforms that reformed Labour parties and trade unions win for the workers as a means to prop up their property. If it can use any means, even if it involves involving themselves for the benefit of their own control over the workers. These reforms have to be complete.

Nothing like this exists in Britain at the moment. Enoch Powell has prepared the ground for the beginning of a serious fascist movement. But this is the beginning of the process, not the end.

The speed with which the rest of the representatives of the ruling class did not get completely overawed by the workers' problems by their traditional leaders. They still put their faith, although to a decreasing extent, in buying off trade union leaders and keeping the working class compliant and docile.

They believe that the government holds the key to incomes policy, providing state-subsidized productivity deals, and providing the international monetary problems can be solved, their priority will remain. They are not yet desperate.

AKIVA ORR looks at the still-explosive situation in

WHRIPOL OF INSTABILITY gives hope to

Arab liberation forces

A YEAR HAS PASSED since the six-day war in the Middle East. Like most wars, it signified the end of an era and the start of a new one. The Middle East has been the crucible of the disintegration of the British empire, and it is the new era that has been in Egypt, Trans-Jordan, Syria, and Iraq. It was the era of the United Nations, and it was the era of the United Nations, and it was the era of the United Nations. It was the era of the United Nations, and it was the era of the United Nations. It was the era of the United Nations, and it was the era of the United Nations.

The grip of the professionals' appetite for power and the will of the people to unite and to achieve their goals.

The refusal of the peace-loving forces, including those in Britain, to lose hope and to try to develop if this to occur, and to achieve their goals.

Love thy enemy

The NEW MOOD of unity which is sweeping over the Arab world seems to be real. It is, after all, the result of a realistic appraisal of the situation, and it is likely to have a profound effect on the future of the Middle Eastern region. It seems to be based on the recognition that the enemy is not just a political or military adversary, but a deep-seated and intractable problem. It is the recognition that the enemy is not just a political or military adversary, but a deep-seated and intractable problem. It is the recognition that the enemy is not just a political or military adversary, but a deep-seated and intractable problem.

Japa, with the help of the United States, has been the symbol of Arab nationalism and past victories, but the symbol, cracked in the face, is now not as formidable as before. It is the recognition that the enemy is not just a political or military adversary, but a deep-seated and intractable problem.
James Connolly Centenary Social
Saturday June 8 at 8pm
THE METROPOLITAN
Farringdon Road EC1
Admission 2s 6d
Nearest tube Farringdon Buses 19 38 63

Des Wilson,
Director, Shelters,
The Strand, W.C. 2

Paul Foot writes: No, sorry, my
informant about "Shelter," I
now realise that she was talking about
the Christian organisation of the same
name.

Established

How does the June war of 1967 look from this viewpoint? It
highlighted the limitations and weaknesses of the
officers' revolutions, of Arab
nationalism, and of the role played by
Moscow. It established the United
States as the main imperialist power
in this part of the world.

The fact that the officers' revolutions in Egypt and Iraq, established
in power 15 and nine years
respectively, oddly, by Moscow,
well-prepared for a military attack,
suffered a shattering defeat within
six days is bound to raise many

THE VICTIMS - Arabs from the west bank of
the river Yarmouk.

ers and the regime (which closed all
universities for three weeks), in Jeru-
salem, the Zionists parties, from the
leftist Mapam to the rightist Herut,
still sit together in the "National
Unity" coalition formed on the eve
of the war.

The fate of the "conquered-held
liberated" territories is still debated
between the extremists and the
moderates. The former advocate
outright, total annihilation, the latter,
while voting for the annexation of East
Jerusalem, favour trading territory for
a peace treaty with Hussein and Nasser.
motivated by the ideology of "Jewish Power" and fueling a rabid anti-Arab populism.

Samuel Steinitz, Wilson and Keating decided it was time to woo Nasr and company and lease Joho to burden him by supporting Israeli settlers. By creating a fait accompli on the ground, it becomes impossible to overcome it. The Palestinians have no other option but to continue their struggle against the occupation.

The secret of the Middle East war was won mainly by the French, who had an interest in maintaining their influence in the Arab world. They were determined not to let the Palestinians in the US army in control of their destiny. The US, therefore, has been able to maintain its influence in the region.

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Public opinion, never a factor in Israeli politics, which are manipulated by an oligarchy of Zionist parties, probably prefers peace and security to territory, but it is not the time to challenge the Zionist principles of the annexationists.

The Israelis suddenly realised that Israel is not the state of the Israelis, but the state of the Jews. The leaders consider Israel as the incarnation of Zionism, not as a state of its own population. Israel is not a population which produced its political institutions; it is a case of institutions producing the population.

Ironically, it is the most stable supporter of imperialism in the area—Israel—that has destroyed the previous delicate balance and plunged the entire area into a whirlpool of new instability. As the nationalist officers have already played out their anti-imperialist role, the choice for the Arab world is between a Vietcong-type struggle and a communist regime. It will depend on the activity of the revolutionaries in that area which of the two will materialise.

**A letter from Israel**

—see page 3

Just re-published

**ROSA LUXEMBOURG**

A critical study by TONY CLIFF

5s 6d (including postage) from

36 Gilden Road London NW3
FOLLOWING A WAVE OF MILITANCY in March, when Glasgow shipyard workers successfully defended their jobs against the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders plans for redundancy, their company's rationalisation strategy, has become clearer.

'SLAVE CHARTER' PROPOSED FOR BUILDING WORKERS

By TED RICHARDS (ASPT)

THE BUILDING BOSSES' charter submitted to the unions as a prerequisite to any wage increase is said to chill the heart of even the most wage-hungry worker. These 10 points were presented at a meeting of the employers' double-talk, their demands and what they meant at 1200 Opportunities on October 27 last year. For those who are unfamiliar with the employers' double-talk, their demands and what they mean, the charter reads as follows:

1. To increase productivity and to achieve wage efficiency. Harder work for us now profits for the employees. Profits in 1970 were £11m. MacAlpine £6m. Speed up and faster production means more deaths and accidents. In 1966 there were 291 deaths in the shipbuilding industry. The practice of such abuses as absenteeism and unfulfilled overtime is the prime mover of the whole process. The employer can only have one motive, profit. If you go on strike or have a day off, you are a 'defective' and you will be discharged or 'fired' by the employers' industry by reducing the amount of variables, like wages, benefits and hours, the building workers lose the right to job security. There is no such right to work. What next—tax and children?

4. To moderate, where possible, the height of the cost of living by operating efficiencies.
Newcastle busmen go back
from DAVE PEERS
NEWCASTLE'S 1400 municipal busmen returned to work empty-handed last month after a fortnight's strike. The strike was the outcome of months of frustration and anger over the government's policy of reducing their pay, and the knock-on effect of the ban on transferring work.

Another mass meeting was held by the stewards to choose between a full-scale strike against the sacks or lifting the ban and negotiating redundancy terms. By a small majority in a large meeting the decision was to lift the ban.

The reluctance of the management to meet the workers' demands on redundancy terms led to the ban being resumed, and the problem of large numbers being left out of work still exists at Woolwich and at various factories where the policy is being followed.

Neither of these aims has been achieved, and although the return to work was presented as some sort of victory, it had the appearance of a retreat in the face of economic hardship.

TRICKS

At the same time the management — who have missed few tricks in this tough campaign — were putting men off in the Scottish factories and announcing their intention of doing the same in other areas. With the effect of the ban on transferring work, another mass meeting was held by the stewards to choose between a full-scale strike against the sacks or lifting the ban.

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Hardship and danger increase for Durham miners

NORTHERN coal mines are being closed as a result of the miners' vetotary policy. But the method of shutting down the mines is not peculiar to the country: it is described in the country's coalfields.

One of the consequences is that there is a fresh burst of strike talk. There has been widespread closure of the mines in the north of England, and only lesperience served to the hardships caused to miners; and there has been a rapid speed-up in mechanisation.

The increase in the use of coal has brought with it improved safety procedures. The use of new loaders and other mechanised equipment, representing the purchase of $100 million worth of equipment, has slightly increased. The rate of accidents has decreased from about 15 per 100,000 man-shifts in 1965 to 10 per 100,000 man-shifts in 1975. The number of longwall faces has decreased from 300 to 200, and the number of longwall faces has increased from 20 to 25.

The National Coal Board has made significant progress in the mechanisation of the mines. The rate of accidents has decreased from about 15 per 100,000 man-shifts in 1965 to 10 per 100,000 man-shifts in 1975. The number of longwall faces has decreased from 300 to 200, and the number of longwall faces has increased from 20 to 25.

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A miner at Halkett Colliery said: “If you observed the safety regulations on my job, the whole pit would come to a stop in 10 minutes. They are doing men’s work.”

A miner at another South Yorkshire pit said that there had been an agreement in the area that if the manager arbitrarly ordered a shift back down the shaft, when miners had exercised their customary right to come to the top 10 minutes early, the manager would be told that the pit was not going to work.

In an area in which coal is going to be mined as long as anyone can see, strong opposition could still resist redundancies, or at least control the phasing, and obtain the best agreement.

But to fight the threat of closure, to provide long-term solutions, not just for the Yorkshire pit miner but for all miners, requires a wider political organisation, centred on demands made of the state, like “work or full maintenance.”

In the now emerging political situation, mass strikes everywhere will be faced with the same problem, and no other form of fight has any meaning.

POWELL ON TRADE UNIONS:

“Conservatives must take a long hard look at union law,” said Powell, “we cannot go on with the law as it is.”

In a recent speech (4.3.68) in support of reforming trade union law, Powell referred to the “sinister, profit-hating, almost Luddite attitude of British trade unionists.”

POWELL ON SOCIAL SERVICES:

In 1959, he said: “The council house system is immoral and socially damaging. It is time the government considered abolishing this £100 million a year subsidy being paid to council tenants.”

POWELL ON NATIONALISATION:

“It is inconceivable that this great range of industries—coal, gas, electricity, rail transport, and telephone and postal services—should be owned and managed by the state.”

The previous forecast of price rises by the end of this year, given by the Financial Secretary, was deviated from by 1 per cent. Barbara Castle on May 24th added 5 per cent for price increases by unorganised industries, electricity, phones, etc., making a total of 5 per cent. But other cost increases have been taking place, which will exert a further pressure on prices. The Economist has suggested a rise of 7 per cent in prices by the end of the year.

The profits of industrial companies, which published their accounts this year, showed an increase in the previous year, of 9 per cent (Financial Times, 1.5.68). The average of about 10 per cent seasonally adjusted, shows that company profit margins jumped up to 5 per cent in the last quarter.
FRANCE- STUDENTS SET FIRE TO WORKERS
SMOULDERING ANGER WITH DE GAULLE

THE GENERAL STRIKE which paralysed the whole of France was the spontaneous result of the anger felt by the workers against the violence of the state against the students. The student demonstrations culminating in the massacre were often unco-ordinated agitation in the universities by socialist students. When opposition to this agitation came from right-wing students via the CGT, it was more widespread.

The university authorities reacted first by suspending political discussion and then by completely closing the Sorbonne university. This led to street fighting between students and police when the students demanded the reopening of the Sorbonne.

Police brutality was the flashpoint for the accumulation of grievance against the police by the Gaullist regime. Strike demands poured from the union rank and file and a one-day general strike was called for Monday, May 13—a day that also saw a million workers in the streets in solidarity with the students.

During the next two days, students went to the factories, demanding the reinstatement of the workers, explained the reasons for their struggle and forged a link between the students’ demands and the demands of the workers.

By Thursday, spontaneous action for factory occupation were occurring all over France. The situation developed quickly into a movement and it was difficult to pin-point an exact sequence. It is clear that the union leaders won the day in all of the strikes, but the determination of the rank and file present them with an empirical reality.

When a student spoke to a factory gate meeting at the Renault factory on the outskirts of Paris, a union official suggested that the paramilitary police were waiting nearby, and that the student had called them there. Another argued that the workers were not strong enough and should wait another day to discuss a one-day token strike.

Little attention was paid to the officials and the young workers suggested factory occupation and machine-breaking. They talked of the struggle to the workers of the massive Renault plant was immediately taken over.

The strike spread by Friday to the factory police, security men and canteen workers, who struck simultaneously and work all the harder to feed their comrades.

The most impressive feature of the strike was the wide open supply of the French Communist Party.

The CP’s demands are reformist and basically bourgeois. Its political demands are for a democratic state wielded by a coalition of “popular” forces. The party and its wings behind the economic demands of the workers, and is continually pressed to turn to socialist solutions.

The initial demands on CP handouts and strike posters were for a minimum wage of 600 Frs per month. Everywhere in every factory, in every industry, the demand was for 1000 Frs. The demand position is so strong that they can press the government to hand over to the socialists.

What is needed is a decisive thrust into the revolutionary left, providing the initiative to the workers on to the streets and pressuring the capitalists. Local insurrections are needed for workers to take over whole districts. But the revolutionary left feels so small and insignificant compared with the American Communist Party that they will probably be incapable of delivering the goods.

The situation could develop in the near future and workers will have to move on to the streets to requisition it. (At present, workers buy directly, selectively through the factory committees for the occupation.)

Square one

Right-wing demonstrations in the streets in greater numbers and start attacking workers.

Even without the ruling class were to grant massive reforms temporarily (and for them temporary reforms ever big, are better than permanent expropriation), such reforms will probably disappear after a few months through an equally massive devaluation of the franc and the workers will have to be back to square one.

The danger of reforms is that it will give the working class the far right time to regroup and may also lead to a demoralisation of the workers, even though the hard core of the revolutionary left will stick to the Gaullist left will stick to the Gaullist.

The strikes are on the upswing, and this is in the period of the first stage of the French economic crisis. This crisis will probably lead to a new wave of strikes and insurrections. These are the periods where the French workers have to be on the look out for the new wave of strikes and insurrections. These are the periods where the French workers have to be on the look out for the new wave of strikes and insurrections. These are the periods where the French workers have to be on the look out for the new wave of strikes and insurrections. These are the periods where the French workers have to be on the look out for the new wave of strikes and insurrections. These are the periods where the French workers have to be on the look out for the new wave of strikes and insurrections. These are the periods where the French workers have to be on the look out for the new wave of strikes and insurrections. These are the periods where the French workers have to be on the look out for the new wave of
The strike spread by Friday to the factory police, security men and canteen workers, who struck only to remain and work all the harder to feed their comrades. The most impressive feature was the spontaneity of the strikes. Large factories were seized and the process snowballed until the unions were forced to back the strikes and even to help spread them.

Many sections of French society followed the lead of the workers - footballers, office workers, customs men, workers’ control. Each demand indicates rank-and-file pressure which goes beyond reforms towards socialist reconstruction of society from the bottom up.

The most serious problem for the French workers is the complete absence of any revolutionary organisation capable of articulating and generalising the revolutionary implications of the mass strikes. The field is therefore

biggest weakness. They are so strong that there is no opposition. The state machine is paralysed, the police and the army are divided and cannot be used to intervene. But this means that the workers become complacent and just remain in their factories which is a major weakness of the sit-in strikes. Meanwhile, they give the ruling class time to recover and regroup.

The danger of reforms is that it will give the ruling class and the far right time to regroup and may also lead to a demoralisation of some sections of the workers, even though the hard core of the revolutionary left will become even harder. But de Gaulle’s speech on May 24 indicates that little will be offered.

The implications for Britain and the other advanced capitalist countries of giving full recognition to the demands of the working class. The sectarian tendencies of the fifties, which were undoubtedly necessary for survival at the time, must be thrown overboard.

Only by all revolutionary socialists who share common ground on revolution in the west uniting in an organisation capable of giving a revolutionary lead will that revolution be achieved in the shortest possible time.

by Laurie Flynn Ted Jones and Mike Heym

MEMBERS OF AN INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM DELEGATION to FRANCE